



**Urban District of Clevedon.**

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**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**For the Year 1915.**

Population of the District (Census, 1911) .. . .	6,111
Population, estimated at middle of 1915 .. . .	6,224
Area in Statute Acres .. . . . .	3,027
Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population .. . . .	10.6
Death-rate per 1,000 of Population (corrected) .. . .	13.18
Zymotic Death-rate .. . . . .	0.8
Infantile Mortality, per 1,000 Births .. . . .	106

# REPORT.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Clevedon.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present my Report of the Health and Sanitary condition of this District for the year 1915.

The Local Government Board consider that many of the details usually inserted in the Annual Report, such as a description of the District, and of the Water Supply, Sewerage, and Sewage disposal, &c., may be omitted, and that the report may be confined to a record of what has taken place during the year.

These details will be found in my reports for previous years.

Troops to the number of nearly 4,000 were billeted in the District during the first three months of the year, entailing much work by your staff, and extra help was obtained for the systematic inspection of billets and general supervision. Before the arrival of the troops their Brigadier and his medical officers were interviewed and various arrangements made, including the use of the disinfecting apparatus and the Isolation Hospital if required. The Red Cross Hospital of 50 beds was taken over by them for general use. Temporary latrines were erected where necessary, and arrangements made for the removal of refuse. Special inspections were made of places in this District where food is prepared as to its quality and the Sanitary condition of the premises; and the names and addresses of firms concerned in the supply of food from outside, forwarded to the Chief Inspector of Foods.

On January 27th an Inspector of the Local Government Board visited the District and conferred with your Medical Officer of Health, Surveyor, and the Medical Officers of the Troops as to mutual arrangements.

The general health of the District during this period was good, except for much influenzal catarrh. There was one military case of cerebro-spinal fever, isolated in the Red Cross Hospital; no other acute infectious disease among the troops or civil population, and the Isolation Hospital accommodation was not required.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT AND SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

*Rivers and Streams.*—The three Commission rivers under the control of the Council have been periodically cleansed, and no complaints received from the viewers.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*—The new sewer, for which a loan was obtained after the L.G.B. inquiry in October, 1913, has been satisfactorily completed, and is working well.

*Sanitary Inspection of the District.*—Repairs and renewals to drains, water-closets, sinks, &c., have been effected, general nuisances abated, complaints attended to, and scavenging notices served.

*Common Lodging Houses.*—Two in the district have been constantly inspected.

*Public Slaughter House.*—Has been regularly inspected, and at times of slaughtering, and has been kept in good order. One carcase of beef was condemned for tuberculosis and destroyed.

## FOOD.

(a) *Milk.*—Frequent inspections were made of dairies, milk-shops, and cow-sheds, and conditions found to be satisfactory. No action was taken or needed as to tuberculous or defective milk.

(b) *Other Foods.*—Owing to the presence of troops billeted in the district special inspections were made at all places of preparation of food as to the materials employed and the sanitary condition of the premises used, and action was taken where necessary.

The twelve bakehouses have been periodically inspected and found to be in satisfactory sanitary condition.

(c) *Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts.*—The provisions of these Acts are usually carried out by the police authorities; no necessity has arisen for the local authority to take action.

## HOUSING.

1. Sanitary District .. . . .	Clevedon Urban.
2. New houses erected during 1915 .. . .	None.
3. Number of houses inspected during 1915 under the Housing Act, 1909 .. . . .	29
4. Results of inspections of the fresh houses inspected during 1915 :—	
(a) Number reported as unfit for human habitation .. . . . .	nil.
(b) Number defective, but with defects not sufficient to report as unfit for habitation ..	29
(c) Number without recorded sanitary defects .	nil.
5. Action taken and results in regard to houses reported as unfit during 1914 and 1915 respectively, as follows :—	
	For houses re- ported during 1914. 1915.
Number reported as unfit .. . . . .	1 nil.
(a) Closing orders made .. . . . .	1 nil.
(b) Made fit without closing order .. . . . .	nil. nil.
(c) No closing order made, still unfit .. . . . .	1 nil.
Still unfit at end of 1915 .. . . . .	nil.
Put in repair after closing order .. . . . .	nil.
Demolished .. . . . .	nil.
6. Action taken with regard to defective houses, but not sufficient to report as unfit, as follows :—	
	For houses first examined during 1914. 1915.
Number so examined .. . . . .	76 29
Number with defects remedied by the end of 1915 ..	— 55
Number still defective at end of 1915 .. . . . .	— 95
Number not yet visited to ascertain if defects are remedied .. . . . .	Nearly completed.
7. Cases of overcrowding dealt with during the year .. . . . .	— nil.
8. Parishes in which there is evidence of shortage of houses, and steps taken to remedy ..	— None.

## WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, &c.

The Boot Factory and Steam Laundry are in good condition as regards cleanliness, ventilation, and sanitary arrangements. No lists of outworkers were received during the year.

The twelve Bakehouses, none underground, are in good condition as regards cleanliness and sanitation, and have been regularly inspected.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of notifications received was :—

Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	I
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	I
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	3
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Total	..	..	..	..	..	22

*Diphtheria*.—The one case was notified in June ; no other case resulted, and no sanitary defect existed on the premises.

*Erysipelas*.—One case in December of the ordinary facial variety.

*Scarlet Fever*.—Three cases in first half-year, all in one institution. Four cases in October, all mild cases in young children, of undiscovered origin. No further cases occurred in any house after removal to Hospital and disinfection of premises. All the second series and one of the first were removed to the Isolation Hospital ; the percentage of cases removed being 55, and the number of cases per 1,000 of population 1.1.

*Tuberculosis*.—The number of primary notifications was 10 of the pulmonary form, corresponding to 1.6 per 1,000 of population, and three of other forms of tuberculosis. Nine deaths occurred during the year, seven from the pulmonary and two from other forms. Of these deaths one had been notified as suffering from tuberculosis in 1912, one in 1913, two in 1914, three in 1915 ; one was an imported case and one had not been notified. The death-rate per 1,000 of population is 1.1 for the pulmonary and 0.321 for other forms. Disinfection has been done in all cases of death or removal, and disinfectants supplied where necessary.

Institutional treatment is provided by the County.

Children were excluded from school on various dates for whooping cough, mumps, measles, and chicken-pox, and one school was closed by the Chief School Medical Officer in February on account of mumps, whooping cough, and epidemic catarrh.

Diarrhoea and enteritis among children were infrequent during the summer, and no deaths occurred from these causes.

## MEANS OF PREVENTING MORTALITY IN CHILD BIRTH AND IN INFANCY.

The Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, became operative on September 1st, and 19 births were notified up to the end of the year. The County Council has formulated a scheme for utilising the information obtained by notification.

There were no notifications of ophthalmia neonatorum, meningitis or poliomyelitis.

A Maternity and Child Welfare scheme is in process of formation.

### VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

(TABLES I.—IV.)

*Births in 1915.*—The number of births registered in the District was 62 (33 boys and 29 girls); adding two males and two females born outside the district the nett number of births is 66, of which nine were illegitimate. The birth-rate calculated on an estimated population of 6,224 is 10.6 per 1,000 per annum. This is the lowest birth-rate of which I have any record; the average for the past five years is 14.6. The Notification of Births (Extension) Act, 1915, became operative on September 1st, and 19 births were notified during the last quarter of the year, all by the doctor or certified midwife in attendance.

*Deaths in 1915.*—The number of deaths registered in the District was 95. Subtracting three of non-residents registered in this District and adding 10 of residents registered elsewhere, we obtain 102 nett deaths belonging to this District. Of the ten deaths occurring outside the District three were in the Union Infirmary and two in the County Asylum.

The local uncorrected death-rate calculated on the estimated population of 6,224 is 16.38. Using the factor given by the Registrar-General of correction for age and sex distribution in this District, the true corrected death-rate is 13.18. This is slightly higher than the average for the past five years.

Of the 102 deaths, 44 were of males and 58 of females.

*Ages at Death.*—These were as follows:—

Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	7
1 and under 2 years	..	..	..	..	..	6
2 and under 5 years	..	..	..	..	..	0
5 and under 15 years	..	..	..	..	..	3
15 and under 25 years	..	..	..	..	..	2
25 and under 45 years	..	..	..	..	..	6
45 and under 65 years	..	..	..	..	..	25
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	..	53

Of those over 65 years,

16 were between 80 and 90,  
And one was 93.

*Causes of Death.*—There were five deaths among the “seven principal zymotic diseases,” namely, five from whooping cough. There were none from diarrhoea and enteritis. The zymotic death-rate was 0.8 per 1,000 of population.

The other chief diseases which caused death were:—

Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	..	..	7
Other Tuberculous diseases	..	..	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	12
Organic Heart Disease	..	..	10
Bronchitis	..	..	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	3
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	..	..	5
Premature Birth	..	..	3
Violent Deaths (excluding Suicide)	..	..	5
Old Age	..	..	11

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year of age was seven, the rate per 1,000 births being 106, as compared with a five years average of 73. The causes of these deaths were premature birth three, whooping cough two, bronchitis one, and one found dead.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER J. HILL, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE I. CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Number Corrected to District Number.	Nett. Rate.	Numb'r Rate.	Numb'r Rate.	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
								Num'r	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	13
1910	6326	96	15.17	63	9.95	5	3	5	52.08	61	9.64
1911	6111	97	15.87	84	13.74	2	7	7	72.26	89	14.56
1912	6111	79	13.09	79	12.92	2	9	6	100.	86	14.07
1913	6111	88	89	14.56	83	13.58	4	7	78.65	86	14.07
1914	6195	92	94	15.17	88	14.2	5	8	63.82	91	14.68
1915	6224	62	66	10.6	95	15.26	3	10	7	106.	16.38

Area of District in acres  
(land and inland water).

Total population at all ages ... ... ...  
Number of inhabited houses ... ... ...  
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 3,027 \\ 1,303 \end{array} \right.$  At Census of 1911.  
 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 6,111 \\ 1,303 \end{array} \right.$  At Census of 1911.

**TABLE II.**

**CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.**

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Number of Cases Notified.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
		At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cholera	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	
Scarlet fever	...	7	3	3	1	...	...	...	5	
Typhus fever	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric fever	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Relapsing fever	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued fever	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal fever	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Poliomyelitis	...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	..	..	1	7	2	...	...	..	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	..	
Totals	...	22	4	6	2	8	2	...	5	

**TABLE III.**  
**CLEVEDON URBAN DISTRICT.**

**Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1915.**

TABLE IV. INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1915.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		1 Under 1 Week.		1-2 Weeks.		2-3 Weeks.		3-4 Weeks.		6-9 Months.		9-12 Months.		T1. Under 1 month.		T1. Deaths under 1 Year.	
All causes	Certified ... Uncertified ...	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4	... 4
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1